

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 01964 211537Z

51

ACTION EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-05 FSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /024 W

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R 211520Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2609

UNCLAS BELGRADE 1964

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, YO

SUBJ: SFCP/EPA - PROPOALS ON COAL GASIFICATION PROJECT

REF: BELGRADE 0271

1. AMB CALLED ON DIRGEN FAISECTC (BULAJIC) APR 17 TO DETERMINE STATUS OF SUBJECT PROPOSAL AND URGE EARLIEST GOY DECISION. BULAJIC RESPONDED THAT UNFORTUNATELY REORGANIZATION OF REPUBLIC AND PROVINCE SCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS PARTICULARLY IN SERBIA AND KOSOVO HAD DELAYED CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROPOSAL AND HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHEN DECISION WOULD BE MADE, BUT HE WAS REASONABLY SURE IT WOULD BE POSITIVE.

2. BULAJIC STRESSED THAT MAY 74 GOY PLEDGE OF ADDITIONAL 7.2 MILLION DOLLARS DINAR EQUIVALENT FOR JOINT FUND ON MATCHING BASIS WAS DEFINITE COMMITMENT WHICH GOY INTENDS TO CARRY OUT AND THERE WAS DEFINITE INTEREST IN USING PART OF THIS SUM TO MATCH EPA DOLLARS FOR SUBJECT PROPOSAL WHICH GOY THOUGHT TO BE A GOOD PROJECT.

3. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO JUDGE WHETHER FURTHER DELAY IN MAKING GRANT WILL SO SERIOUSLY HAMPER ACHIEVEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC GOALS OF PROJECT AS TO RENDER IT MEANINGLESS. WE ALSO, OF COURSE, APPRECIATE VERY MUCH PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING EPA HAS ALREADY SHOWN. FROM EMBASSY'S POINT OF VIEW, AND SUBJECT TO CAVEAT ABOVE, WE WOULD PREFER TO ALLOW YUGOSLAVS ADDITIONAL TIME TO COMPLETE THEIR REORGANIZATIONS.

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MILLER

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